

# INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No.  
**PCT/AU2004/000319**

## A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER

Int. Cl. <sup>7</sup>: A47G 29/12, 29/122, 29/124, E05B 41/00, 47/00.

According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC

## B. FIELDS SEARCHED

Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)  
IPC: A47G 29/12, 29/122, 29/124, E05B 41/00, 47/00, E05G 1/02, 1/10.

Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched  
AU IPC: A47G 29/12, 29/122, 29/124, E05B 41/00, 47/00, E05G 1/02, 1/10.

Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practicable, search terms used)  
DWPI : IPC: A47G 29/12, 29/122, 29/124, E05B 41/00, 47/00, E05G 1/02, 1/10 and (lock+,closure+,fasten+) and (signal+,communicat+,indicat+,) and (bank+,array+,multiple compart+,letterbox+,mailbox+,locker+)

## C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category*	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
X	Derwent Abstract Accession No.99-161199/14, Class P27, JP 11018916 A (MATSUSITA DENKI SANGYO KK) 26 January 1999. See entire abstract.	1 to 12.
Y	Derwent Abstract Accession No.2002-275238/32, Class P25, JP 2002017554 A (FULLTIME SYSTEMS KK) 22 January 1999. See entire abstract.	1,2,4.
Y	Derwent Abstract Accession No.96-237022/24, Class Q47, JP 08093287 A (MIWA LOCK CO LTD) 9 April 1996. See entire abstract.	1,2,3,4.
Y	Derwent Abstract Accession No.98-575967/49, Class T01, JP 10257960 A (TOPY KOGYO KK) 29 September 1998. See entire abstract.	1,2,4.

☒ Further documents are listed in the continuation of Box C ☒ See patent family annex

* Special categories of cited documents:	
"A" document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance	"T" later document published after the international filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the invention
"E" earlier application or patent but published on or after the international filing date	"X" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone
"L" document which may throw doubts on priority claim(s) or which is cited to establish the publication date of another citation or other special reason (as specified)	"Y" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such documents, such combination being obvious to a person skilled in the art
"O" document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means	"&" document member of the same patent family
"P" document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed	

Date of the actual completion of the international search  
2 June 2004

Date of mailing of the international search report  
9 JUN 2004

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C (Continuation). DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category*	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
Y	Derwent Abstract Accession No.96-112094/12, Class Q34, JP 08011984 A (MITSUBISHI DENKI BUIL TECHNO SERVICE KK) 16 January 1996. See entire abstract.	1,2,4.
X	Derwent Abstract Accession No. 2002-298826/34, Class P27, JP 2002034772 A (MATSUSHITA ELECTRIC WORKS LTD) 5 February 2002. See entire abstract.	1 to 12.
X	Derwent Abstract Accession No.98-083737/08, Class W05, JP 09317278 A (ALPHA KK) 9 December 1997. See entire abstract.	3
Y	Derwent Abstract Accession No.2001-632927/73, Class W05, JP 2001243575 A (FULLTIME SYSTEMS KK) 7 September 2001. See entire abstract.	34
X	WO 1997/41542 A (PORTER) 6 November 1997. See entire specification.	1,2,4 to 12.
X	FR 2687298 A (BONIFACE) 20 August 1993. See entire specification.	1,2,4 to 12.
X	FR 2563987 A (SOCIETE DE DISTRIBUTION DE LA BRASSERIE DE LILLE SA.) 15 November 1985. See entire specification.	1,2,4 to 12.
X	EP 389313 B (MORS) 26 September 1990. See entire specification.	3
X	CA 2098973 A (CANADA POST CORPORATION) 23 December 1994. See entire specification.	1 to 12.

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### Box No. II Observations where certain claims were found unsearchable (Continuation of item 2 of first sheet)

This international search report has not been established in respect of certain claims under Article 17(2)(a) for the following reasons:

1. ☐ Claims Nos.:  
because they relate to subject matter not required to be searched by this Authority, namely:
2. ☐ Claims Nos.:  
because they relate to parts of the international application that do not comply with the prescribed requirements to such an extent that no meaningful international search can be carried out, specifically:
3. ☐ Claims Nos.:  
because they are dependent claims and are not drafted in accordance with the second and third sentences of Rule 6.4(a)

### Box No. III Observations where unity of invention is lacking (Continuation of item 3 of first sheet)

This International Searching Authority found multiple inventions in this international application, as follows:

Claims 1, 2 and 4 are directed to a claim for a compartment which can send information of either the status of the closure or its contents, whereas claim 3 is directed to a closure for a compartment in a bank of compartments.

1. ☐ As all required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant, this international search report covers all searchable claims.
2. ☒ As all searchable claims could be searched without effort justifying an additional fee, this Authority did not invite payment of any additional fee.
3. ☐ As only some of the required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant, this international search report covers only those claims for which fees were paid, specifically claims Nos.:
4. ☐ No required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant. Consequently, this international search report is restricted to the invention first mentioned in the claims; it is covered by claims Nos.:

#### Remark on Protest

- ☐ The additional search fees were accompanied by the applicant's protest.
- ☐ No protest accompanied the payment of additional search fees.

**INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT**

Information on patent family members

International application No.

**PCT/AU2004/000319**

This Annex lists the known "A" publication level patent family members relating to the patent documents cited in the above-mentioned international search report. The Australian Patent Office is in no way liable for these particulars which are merely given for the purpose of information.

Patent Document Cited in Search Report		Patent Family Member			
WO	199741542	AU	28234/97	CA	2264296
		US	5774053		EP 920686
FR	2687298	NIL			
FR	2563987	NIL			
EP	389313	CA	2010365	FR	2644916
		PT	93293	JP	2291092
		US	5231272		
CA	2098973	US	5475378		

Due to data integration issues this family listing may not include 10 digit Australian applications filed since May 2001.

END OF ANNEX